

THE
OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 1988



AN ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Next Meeting: March 9

WORDS FROM THE PREZ By Paul, WB6SHR

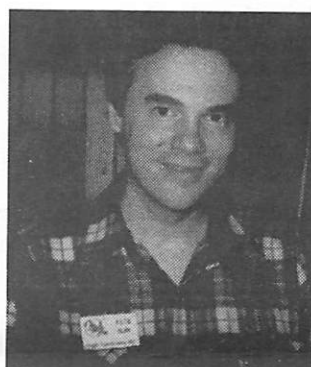
Fellow hams, club members and friends. Lend me your attention for a minute. For I have some information that will surprise some of you, make some of you unhappy and could even make others very pleased. Who knows?

This is the end of the road for your current President. I, Paul Lucas, have been forced to make an unpleasant decision in my life which directly impacts the club and some of you. For personal reasons, I must leave Oregon, return to San Diego and start a new life. No, I am not a bad guy, just a fellow ham who got caught off guard and who was directly impacted by very unpleasant family and work circumstances. This was not a decision I wanted to make because I really like the club, my friends and this beautiful area. But I have no choice and the decision has been made. So, I must move on.

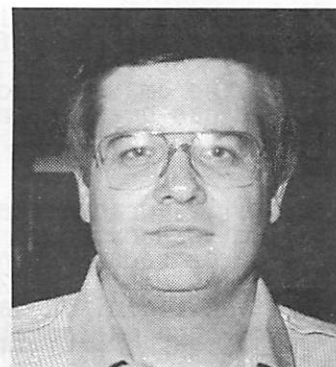
As a result of this, John Ewing, K7SHC will become acting President starting March 19, 1988. John and I talked about his role and he feels very comfortable stepping in. The club constitution says the club can hold a special election to fill the President's position. Hopefully, you will give John the chance to remain as President. Some of the details regarding the special election will be worked out at the March Board meeting. Please welcome John in his new assignment. John will be a good leader and will serve the club in good faith.

Even though I will not be here for the remaining part of the year, I plan to stay in touch with the club. I am still a life member and, who knows, maybe I will even return to the area some day. If I do not see you at the next club meeting, thank you for your support and efforts. I will miss all of you.

1988 OTVARC BOARD MEMBERS - TRUSTEES



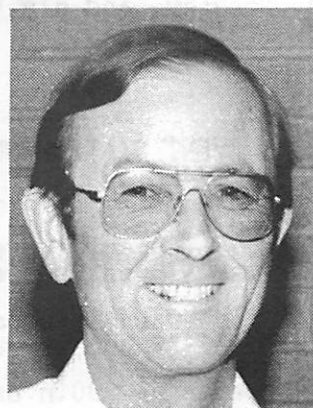
ALAN, K07B



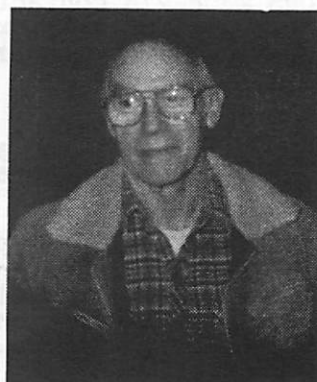
TERRY, WB7CHK



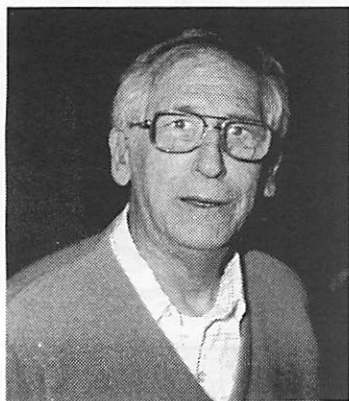
RANDY, KA7HJT



AL, WB7SIC



RALPH, WB7VGS



We are saddened to report the passing of Bernard (Bernie) Pollock, KQ7L, on February 15.

Bernie became a ham in high school when he made his first radio from a cigar box. Over the years he has become well known for the amateur radio classes he taught and has been instrumental in getting many of our club members into the hobby.

Whilst still a graduate student, Bernie was called to Harvard to assist in the perfection of radar during WWII, then followed service in the 20th Air Force in the Asian field. He also worked on secret research on the atomic bomb as well as research on missiles and the space program.

Our sympathy and condolences to his wife, Dorothy, and his two sons.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION SUCCESSFUL By Jeff, K7JF

Thanks to a real "team" effort, our Bicentennial Special Event Station K200JF was a great success.

The station was licensed to operate from February 13-19 and was authorized by the FCC (with big help from the ARRL) to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the U. S. Constitution.

In the one-week period, our two operating stations made 975 contacts on 80-10 meters and 145.67 MHz simplex. The QSLs have already started rolling in!

Those assisting with the operation include KB7ADH, K07B, N7EPE, W7JOI and KA7NPN. Again, a big "thanks" for all your help and to those who contacted us... the cards are in the mail.

We have applied to the FCC for a special event call for the 1988 ARRL Convention. If you are interested in helping with set-up or operation of that station, please let me know shortly.

THE OTVARC TRAVELERS By Bobbi Anton

The OTVARC Travelers are having a recruiting blitz and have some terrific free give-aways to encourage campers to join. Just to name a few: Great company; terrific card games; wonderful hiking; super swimming; fabulous fishing; beautiful scenery; huge campfires; lots of laughs; special interest trips and the best pot luck dinners in the West.

Dig out your sleeping bags, dust off your tents, pull the trailers out of storage, load up the van, grab the kids and the pets and come share some very special times with some of the greatest people in the world - the OTVARC Travelers.

The next campout is March 18, 19 and 20 at Nehalem Bay. Call Tony or I at 645-4188 for details.

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PORTABLE OPERATION By Paul, WB7BBG

Previous articles have pointed out the desirability of having suitable radio equipment ready for your quick departure the event you are requested to go to an emergency operating site, but since real emergencies occur infrequently you need to organize and prepare during less urgent times. There are many similarities in portable operation whether for F/D for setting up your own station while on vacation, for mobile or maritime mobile operation, or for an emergency station to handle traffic in a disaster. Helping set up and operate the club station on F/D is a good way to "get your feet wet" - It's fun, you can get acquainted with lots of people who were just "faces" at the meetings and you can get lots of practical experience. Your own portable operation at a camping site allows you to do the planning, packing, setting up the station and then to be the chief operator. If then you do have the opportunity to take part in an emergency you can feel comfortable about it.

Any of the above require selection of appropriate equipment, accessories and operating aids, as well as personal items, and trying to do all of this at the last moment is likely to lead to omission of something important. To avoid, or at least minimize, such a problem one can list in an organized manner what would be needed for the most complete portable station. By making our list large you can be on the safe side and then only have to adjust it downward to meet simpler situations. This is a lot better than having a short list and then trying to figure out what to add at the last minute.

Most small items can be pre-packed in tool boxes or sturdy cartons and be ready to go whenever needed thus simplifying preparation and minimizing the chance of omission of important items of equipment - add appropriate radios, antennas and your personal items and you can be ready to go on short notice. Willis, N7DZR, who has had wide experience in emergency portable operation kept everything except his radios in his truck ready to go and knew he could add those and be ready to leave in ten minutes if necessary. For most of us it would take a little longer.

If portable or emergency operation sounds interesting to you then make out a list now, try out various ways of packing all of the things, take it all out for a trial run on your next picnic, camping trip or week at the coast and see how well you did. Periodic inventory of what is in the boxes and revision of your list as necessary will allow you to be ready for portable operation quickly and confidently.

Your list might be much different than mine but should include whatever you think you would need for a range of situations. As was said in a previous article "take what you are comfortable with but don't overdo it". My basic list follows and in a full-blown

emergency operation I would take all items, but for my favorite mode, QRP CW at a remote campsite, I would adjust downward and take very little. Be flexible and have fun!

Here is the current list:

LIST 1 - RADIO EQUIPMENT 2-METER RADIO EQUIPMENT

Hand held 2 meter Trcvr with extra batteries
Extra rubber ducky antenna
Speaker-mike Earphone
Web belt

Base/Mobile 2 meter Trcvr with microphone, 2 power cords
Battery clip cords
Lighter socket cords
Jumper cords
Headphones with adapter plugs
Extra fuses
Mag mount antennas (2)
12 volt battery
Power supply if commercial service available.

HF RADIO EQUIPMENT

Transceiver
2 microphones
Power cords Fuses
Headphones with adapter plugs
Mobile antenna with assorted resonators
Tuner and other antennas if indicated
12 volt battery and PS as above
Coax - min. of 75 ft. and also a few short jumpers
PL-258 connectors - one for each extra coax
Extension cords with adapters.

LIST 2 - RECORD KEEPING & STATION EQUIP.

Amateur Radio Sign
Clip board Pencils
Spiral notebooks Messge Forms
ARRL numbered Radiogram list
Repeater guide & Maps
Addresses, Phone Numbers, OTVARC roster
Rubber bands, paper clips, thumbtacks
Calculator
Foam pad Bunge cords Duct Tape
Extension cords and 3-2 adapter plugs
Flashlight & extra batteries
Lantern and fuel
Folding table or 2 ft. x 4 ft. plywood
Folding chair
Plastic tarps
Assorted cord and rope

LIST 3 - SMALL TOOLS

Pliers Screwdrivers Wire stripper
Knife Electricians tape
Soldering iron and solder
Allen wrenches Nut driver set
Assorted coax connectors
Nuts, bolts, nails, wire nuts, alligator clips, etc.

LIST 4 - PERSONAL ITEMS

Suitable clothing - Coats & hats, Rain gear, Boots, Gloves
Sleeping bag
Toilet articles & Medications
Extra eye glasses and sunglasses
Wallet, credit cards, ham license
Thermos Jug & small ice chest
Food and drink as indicated
Camera
OTVARC or other Amateur Radio coat.

DX FOR BEGINNERS AND OTHERS

By Greg, W7AGQ

As I mentioned in the January Newsletter, we will examine propagation a little further. Basically propagation is how we get from here to there.

Radio waves go out from our antenna and either follow along the ground or head up to the sky. During the day we listen to KGW or other AM broadcast stations by the so called "ground wave". At night, however, we may hear WWL in New Orleans (870 KHz) but certainly not by ground wave.

Propagation by ground wave is not important for HF communications. We're looking for "sky waves". During the daytime, however, medium and lower high frequency sky waves go up and are generally absorbed in what's called the "D layer". That's one of the reasons we can't hear distant broadcast stations during the daytime. This layer disappears at night and the sky wave either goes on out into space or is refracted back down to earth for us to enjoy.

Notice I said refracted not reflected. Apparently radio waves are bent or refracted not reflected by various atmospheric layers. Coming back to earth the waves are reflected by the earth (not well) or by water or snow and ice (much better).

There are several layers of ionized particles above us. I mentioned the D layer which is the lowest (around 50 miles up). There is also an E layer which also disappears at night. The ones we need for good DX are the F1 and the F2 layers. These are the ones that bend or refract our radio wave and direct it to a distant point. These layers are located about 100 and 200 miles up respectively.

Geometry tells us that the higher the layer the longer out our signal will be returned to earth. Also this distance can be increased by a low angle of radiation. That's why the guys with the big towers seem to work out better. Being one or two wavelengths about the ground will give you a low angle of radiation and your signal will hit out further or will take fewer hops to get to a given point.

Remember that last concept...fewer hops. While this may not be very good when applied to beer it is definitely an advantage when it comes to communication distance. Every time your signal goes up to the ionosphere some of it passes through into space and some is absorbed and weakened. When your signal comes back to the earth, quite a lot of it is absorbed and bounced in non-favorable directions. The fewer hops the stronger the signal.

If you've accepted that, you may ask why do some signals come in better long path than short path. Obviously there are more hops for a long path. Here are a

couple of answers. A long path over water may be better than one over ground. You may also be short hopping near but not quite onto a particular location. Using a long path may skip you right to the distant station. There are other answers too, such as paths totally in darkness or mostly in a hemisphere where its winter etc. In some future column, I may even discuss gray-line propagation around sunrise and sunset.

For newer DXers, I should explain that a short path is the shortest great circle path to a particular location. Long path is 180 deg. opposite. Short path to South Africa for instance, is about 67 deg. or a little south of northeast (seems crazy but that's it...tie a string around a globe and see for yourself). This path goes over North America and a good deal of the continent of Africa. I'm told usual skip distance is about 2,500 miles. This would put most of our hops over land and thus weaken our signal.

The long path to South Africa is 247 deg. (67 deg. plus 180 deg). This path starts out over the Pacific and probably hops two or three times there and a time or two over the Indian Ocean. Not too much of this path is over land. As a result signals are often stronger long path to South Africa.

Having said all that I must report that on December 31, I talked to 2S2MK in Port Elizabeth and 2S5KB in Durban both Indian Ocean ports in South Africa. I worked them on 15 meter short path. They were also coming in long path though a little weaker.

Propagation is a complex and mysterious subject. That's the bad news. The good news is that the sunspots are increasing and that improves propagation in a way that will amaze you if you haven't been through a cycle or two hunting for DX.

So far no one has taken issue with anything I've said in this column, asked any questions, or suggested topics. I enjoy writing on this subject but without feedback, it's a little like calling CQ DX when the band is dead.

73 or 88 where appropriate.

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JERRY, K7RN

LORNA'S LOOKOUT By Lorna, KA7RFD

A time of transition in our club. I'm sure you all read the front page article about Paul, WB6SHR, and will be surprised by the unexpected announcement that he will be returning to California. Our love and good wishes go with him and we wish him every success in his new endeavors.

Also a time to thank him for the magnificent service he has given to the club, not only as our President for the past fifteen months, but as our previous Social Chairman. Thank you for all your efforts, Paul, you will be missed.

My thanks also to Jeff, K7JF, for putting together a Newsletter at such short notice last month. Another job well done, Jeff.

Also my thanks to Kathryn, KA7UMB, for her wonderful efforts for the past two years in tracking down our new members and writing an article about them each month. Kathryn is one of those really reliable people you can count on to get the job done and done well.

Stepping into Kathryn's shoes as our New Members Editor is our youngest member, Kathy Ewing, KB7DNK. You can read her first fine article in this issue. Thanks for coming forward, Kathy.

The search for a Promotions Manager is over. Paul, WB7BBG, has graciously volunteered to fill that position. If you need to order a Jacket, a patch, a badge or anything else the club offers for sale, please see Paul at the club meeting or call him at home. He will be more than ready and willing to assist you. Coffee mugs are still available!

And don't forget we will have a special election for President and/or Vice President if John, K7SHC accepts the nomination for President. **WON'T YOU PLEASE STEP FORWARD AND VOLUNTEER TO RUN FOR THESE OFFICES?**

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NEW MEMBERS COLUMN By Kathy, KB7DNK

We welcome one new member this month: Jonathan (Jon) Till.

Jon has not yet taken his Novice test, but is studying the "Tune in the World" book. He first got interested in ham radio while taking electronics at PCC a number of years ago. Jon has now returned to PCC to study electronics following seven years as a field engineer repairing computer equipment for Digital Equipment.

He is married to Peggy and they have three kids. Some of his hobbies include radio controlled cars, planes and a helicopter and dirt biking. Jon is also working on his private pilot's license and recently soloed for the first time. He is currently learning the Morse Code and would enjoy someone to practice with.

Let's all look for Jon at the next meeting and make him feel welcome.

MORE RECIPES FROM BETTY, W7CPV

SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN WINGS

For adults, allow 2 to 3 wings per serving. Cut wings at each joint. Discard tip or use in soup.

In a shallow pan (size according to the amount you are fixing, or use 2 pans) pour in enough liquid Crisco (unsaturated oil) to cover bottom of pan.

Beat 1 egg for every 4 to 6 wings and put in a shallow dish. Use a heaping Tbsp. of cornstarch on a paper towel and after rolling wing in egg, roll in cornstarch, coating good. Adding more as needed.

Place 1 layer of wings in dish (or dishes) and bake un-covered; 350 deg. for 30 minutes.

SAUCE

2 tsp. vinegar (apple cider)
2 tsp. soy sauce (low salt)
1/4 cup ketchup
1/4 cup brown sugar (packed)

This amount is plenty for 4 to 6 wings.

Turn wings over and pour sauce over each one. Return to oven and bake un-covered 'til sauce bubbles. Remove from oven and let stand for few minutes to cool, so you can eat them in your fingers.

Note: This sauce is real good on Country Style Short Ribs also. Fix them the same way.

SPECIAL ELECTION

Following the resignation of our President, Paul, WB6SHR, a special election needs to be held. Should Vice President, John, K7SHC agree to accept a nomination for President, it will also become necessary to have an election for Vice President.

Nominations for the office of President and/or Vice President will be taken from the floor at the MARCH meeting. Ballots will be mailed to you around the end of March and your ballot should be returned no later than the start of the April meeting.

Our new President and/or Vice President will take office immediately.

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FUNDRAISERS By Bobbi Antons

Wheels are in motion and we are picking up speed, heading toward two successful fundraisers. Get on board! Catalogs are available from Bobbi for the Tupperware fundraiser. As you get orders, please call them to Bobbi. Tupperware will be available weekly and the profit accumulated until April. Encourage your friends to buy the Tupperware they need now from you while our Club is having the fundraiser.

The garage sale will be July 29, 30 and 31. We need donated items to sell. Clean out your garages, closets, gather items from neighbors. Call Pat, Marvel or Bobbi to arrange pick-up or storage until July. If you will be available to work a two-hour shift at the sale, please call so we can arrange a schedule. We could use baked items, also. To make our efforts worthwhile and to make these fundraisers successful, we need your help. Please call - Pat Griffiths 649-0837, Marvel Noyes 292-3261, Bobbi Antons 645-4188.

MARCH PROGRAM INFORMATION By John, K7SHC

Stan Griffiths, W7NI, will present a program on his recent trip to Hawaii. He will include photos of KH6XX's installation.

Stan always gives an informative and amusing program, so come along and enjoy this one.

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REGISTRATION INFO:

1. Bring Original license + photocopy and original Certificate if you have one. Also bring identification with picture.
2. Bring a check or money order for \$4.55 payable to ARRL/VEC.
3. Arrive about 9:30AM.

More info: Call Randy, KA7HJT 649-5066

1988 OTVARC ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Updated 2/20/88

: JANUARY	: FEBRUARY	: MARCH	: APRIL	:
: 13 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 3 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 2 Board/Committee Mtg.	: ? Fund Raiser	:
: 16-17 Club Camping Trip	: 10 OTVARC CLUB MTG.	: 9 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 6 Board/Committee Mtg.	:
: 20 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 13-19 Bicentennial Sta.	: 19-20 Club Camping Trip	: 13 OTVARC Club Meeting	:
: 27 Club Project Night	: 20 Salem Ham Fair	: 30 Club Project Night	: 14 Apr Fools SSB Const.	:
: 30-Feb.7 Novice Round-up:	: 20-21 Club Camping Trip	:	: 16-17 Club Camping Trip	:
:	: 24 Club Project Night	:	: 27 Club Project Night	:
:	: 27 Club "Dine Out Night":	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:
: MAY	: JUNE	: JULY	: AUGUST	:
: 4 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 1 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 6 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 3 Board/Committee Mtg.	:
: 11 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 8 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 10 Diabetes Bike-A-Thon	: 6 Club Picnic	:
: 11 10th Anniversary Pty.	: 11 Portland Rose Parade	: 10 Hagg Lake	: 10 OTVARC Club Meeting	:
: 21-22 Club Camping Trip	: 18 Trask Mtrcycle Trials	: 13 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 20-21 Club Camping Trip	:
: 25 Club Project Night	: 18-19 Club Camping Trip	: 16-17 Club Camping Trip	: 26-27 Hood to Coast Run	:
:	: 24-26 FIELD DAY	: 16-17 MS 150 Bike Tour	: 31 Club Project Night	:
:	: 29 Club Project Night	: 27 Club Project Night	:	:
:	:	: 29-31 Garage/Bake Sale	:	:
:	:	:	:	:
: SEPTEMBER	: OCTOBER	: NOVEMBER	: DECEMBER	:
: 7 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 5 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 2 Board/Committee Mtg.	: 3 Club Holiday Party	:
: 9-11 National Convention:	: 8 Happy Hour Contest	: 9 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 7 Board/Committee Mtg.	:
: 9-11 Bvrtn Good Nbr Days:	: 12 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 12 Lions Phone Bk Pickup:	: 9-11 Ten Meter Contest	:
: 14 OTVARC Club Meeting	: 15-16 Club Camping Trip	: 13 W.A.S. Club Contest	: 14 OTVARC Club Meeting	:
: 15 Rusty Key CW Contest	: 15-16 Jamboree On the Air:	: 19-20 Club Camping Trip	:	:
: 17-18 Club Camping Trip	: 22 "Club Dine Out Night":	: 30 Club Project Night	:	:
: 17-18 Art Quake	: 26 Club Project Night	:	:	:
: 25 Portland Marathon	:	:	:	:
: 28 Club Project Night	:	:	:	:

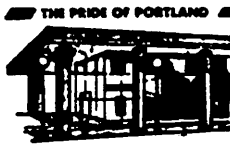
Please note the following:

Some of the activity dates listed above are prescheduled and are not confirmed yet.

When confirmation occurs, updated calendars will be made available at the club meetings.

If you have questions about a particular date or activity, contact one of the club officers.

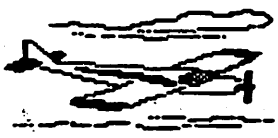
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